

Message Text

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47

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 DODE-00 AGR-20 EB-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 HEW-08

SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-02 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 /173 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ W: RKSHERWOOD: BA

5/17/ EX- 7

APPROVED BY IO- SAMUEL DE PALMA

AF- MR. NEWSOM (DRAFT)

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AID/ AFR- DBROWN (DRAFT)

AFR/ CWR- OCYLKE (DRAFT)

IO/ JWMCDONALD JR. AID/ P

OSD/ ISA/ ELCARWILE (PHONE)

AID/ FFP- MR. ALLPRESS

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R 181512 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 095349

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: AORG, UN, SWEL

SUBJ: SAHELIAN ZONE DROUGHT

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REF: USUN 1768

1. ON MAY 11 DEPARTMENT RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM BOERMA, DIRECTOR GENERAL FAO ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY. TEXT OF MESSAGE FOLLOWED THAT GIVEN REFTEL. PLEASE DELIVER TO DIRECTOR GENERAL FOLLOWING REPLY FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEPALMA.

2. " THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR MESSAGE OF MAY 10 CONCERNING THE ASSISTANCE NEEDED BY THE DROUGHT- STRICKEN COUNTRIES OF SAHELIAN AFRICA. WE SHARE YOUR DEEP CONCERN OVER THE MISERY AND GREAT DEVASTATION WHICH THIS UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT HAS CAUSED.

3. AS OUR REPRESENTATIVES NOTED IN THE MEETING HELD MAY 4 IN ROME UNDER YOUR AUSPICES, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN SHIPPING FOODGRAINS TO THE SIX COUNTRIES MOST SEVERELY HARMED. ALMOST ONE HALF OF 156,000 METRIC TONS OF GRAIN COMMITTED UNDER OUR FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM HAS BEEN DELIVERED TO WEST AFRICAN PORTS OR IS EN ROUTE. THE BALANCE IS BEING SHIPPED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE EXAMINING MEANS OF SPEEDING DELIVERIES FROM THE PORTS TO THE INTERIOR CAPITALS OF MALI, UPPER VOLTA AND NIGER. AUTHORIZATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO OUR REP-

REPRESENTATIVES IN WEST AFRICA TO PURCHASE FEED AND VACCINES FOR CATTLE AND TO PAY COSTS FOR CHARTER OR LEASE FOR TRUCKS TO TRANSPORT GRAIN. A U. S. MILITARY TEAM HAS ARRIVED IN MALI TO SURVEY THE NEEDS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR U. S. AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE, AND WILL PROCEED TO CHAD IN THE NEAR FUTURE FOR THE SAME PURPOSE. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO LIFT SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF FOODSTUFFS TO AIRFIELDS IN THE REMOTER REGIONS OF THOSE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. OFFICIALS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR REPRESENTATIVE, SENATOR RAYMOND SCHEYVEN, ON MAY 18. I CAN ADD THAT WE ARE PREPARED, OF COURSE, TO COOPERATE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT WITH EFFORTS AIMED AT COORDINATING DONATIONS AND WHICH BEAR THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED." RUSH

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: AORG, UN, AORG, SWEL
To: ABIDJAN
BAMAKO
DAKAR
FORT LAMY
NIAMEY
NOUAKCHOTT
OUAGADOUGOU

PARIS
ROME
USUN NEW YORK

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